

6 JUN 1950

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GENERAL

1. Possible Kremlin conference on Southeast Asia--US Embassy Bangkok expresses the opinion that the imminent departure for Moscow of the Soviet Minister and the former Charge, following the recent departure of other Soviet officials, may indicate that an important consultation or planning conference on Southeast Asia will soon take place in Moscow. According to the Embassy, the British representatives in Bangkok concur in the view that the USSR may be calling an urgent meeting in order to decide upon immediate steps to prevent or counter the strengthening of Southeast Asia by the Western Powers.

(CIA Comment: The recall of Soviet representatives from Bangkok, combined with the recall for consultations of top diplomatic personnel from all the Soviet diplomatic posts (except China) in Eastern Asia, indicates that the Kremlin is probably reviewing its over-all policy for the Far East. The additional presence in Moscow of the Soviet Ambassador to the US, a Far Eastern expert familiar with US thinking, is further evidence that the USSR is formulating new tactics designed to counter Western attempts to strengthen anti-Communist efforts in the Far East, especially in Southeast Asia.)

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2. East German-Polish "deal" suggested--US Embassy Moscow reports that present evidence points to a "Soviet-inspired deal" whereby Poland might offer the East German government (GDR) a maritime outlet in the Stettin area. The Embassy states that this action might take the form of outright territorial concession (thus actually modifying the Oder-Neisse frontier) or of an agreement permitting the GDR access to and use of a special port zone.

(CIA Comment: Although it is possible Poland will grant the GDR right of access to Stettin and the use of a special port zone, CIA does not believe that the USSR will modify the Oder-Neisse frontier in the near future.)

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EUROPE

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3. UNITED KINGDOM: British thinking on Schuman proposal-- US Ambassador Douglas in London expresses the belief that the British, fully aware that the French would not accept the proposal, suggested a ministerial meeting to discuss the Schuman plan prior to formal negotiations in the hope that the other participating continental powers could be weaned away from French leadership and thus induced to follow British suggestions for dealing with the matter. Douglas further estimates that the British made their suggestion as a challenge to "renewed" French leadership on the continent because the UK was not prepared to participate in the Schuman proposal and at the same time was unprepared to pay the consequences for not joining. The Ambassador also expresses the view that a basic cause for British reluctance to participate in the Schuman plan is their fear of exposing themselves to forces which would jeopardize the UK's ability to plan and which might interfere with their program of full employment.

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